planar side chain, or a bulky charged side chain;

E is a bulky substituent, but is not the side chain of D-tryptophan, L-N-methyltryptophan, L-homophenylalanine, L-2-naphthyl L-etrahydroisoquinoline, L-cyclohexylalanine, D-leucine, L-fluorenylalanine, or L-histidine;

F is the side chain of L-arginine, L-homoarginine, L-citrulline, or L-canavanine, or a bioisostere thereof; and

X is $-(CH_2)_nNH-$ or $(CH_2)_n-S-$, where n is an integer of from 1 to 4; $-(CH_2)_2O-$; $-(CH_2)_3O-$; $-(CH_2)_3-$; $-(CH_2)_4-$; $-CH_2COCHRNH-$; or $-CH_2-CHCOCHRNH-$, where R is the side chain of any common or uncommon amino acid.

3. A method according to claim 2, in which n is 2 or 3.

4. A method according to claim 2 or claim 3, in which A is an acetamide group, an aminomethyl group, or a substituted or unsubstituted sulphonamide group.

5. A method according to claim 3, in which A is a substituted sulphonamide, and the substituent is an alkyl chain of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or a phenyl or toluyl group.

6. A method according to claim 5, in which the substituent is an alkyl chain of 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

7. A method according to any one of claims 2 to 6, in which B is the side chain of L-phenylalanine or L-phenylglycine.

8. A method according to any one of claims 2 to 7, in which C is the side chain of glycine, alanine, leucine, valine, proline, hydroxyproline, or thioproline.

9. A method according to any one of claims 2 to 8, in which D is the side chain of D-Leucine, D-homoleucine, D-cyclohexylalanine, D-homocyclohexylalanine, D-valine, D-norleucine, D-homo-norleucine, D-phenylalanine, D-tetrahydroisoquinoline, D-glutamine, D-glutamate, or D-tyrosine.

10. A method according to any one of claims 2 to 9, in which E is the side chain of an amino acid selected

from the group consisting of L-phenylalanine, L-tryptophan and L-homotryptophan, or is L-1-napthyl or L-3-benzothienyl alanine.

11. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 10, in which the inhibitor is a compound which has antagonist activity against C5aR, and has no C5a agonist activity.

12. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 11, in which the inhibitor has potent antagonist activity at sub-micromolar concentrations.

13. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 12, in which the compound has a receptor affinity IC50< 25μM, and an antagonist potency IC50< 1μM.

14. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 13, in which the compound is selected from the group consisting of compounds **1** to **6**, **10** to **15**, **17**, **19**, **20**, **22**, **25**, **26**, **28**, **30**, **31**, **33** to **37**, **39** to **45**, **47** to **50**, **52** to **58** and **60** to **70** described in PCT/AU02/01427.

15. A method according to claim 14, in which the compound is PMX53 (compound **1**), compound **33**, compound **60** or compound **45** described in PCT/AU02/01427.

16. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 15, in which the inhibitor is used in conjunction with one or more other agents for the treatment of inflammatory bowel disease.

17. A method according to claim 16, in which the other agent is infliximab or is an inhibitor of C3a.

18. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 17, in which the treatment is to prevent or alleviate acute recurrences of inflammatory bowel disease.

19. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 17, in which the treatment is to prevent or alleviate a primary occurrence of inflammatory bowel disease.

20. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 19, in which the inflammatory bowel disease is selected from the group consisting of ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, lymphocytic-plasmocytic enteritis, coeliac disease, collagenous colitis, lymphocytic colitis and

eosinophilic enterocolitis, indeterminate colitis, infectious colitis, pseudomembranous colitis (necrotizing colitis), and ischemic inflammatory bowel disease.

21. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 19, in which the inflammatory bowel disease is ulcerative colitis.

22. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 19, in which the inflammatory bowel disease is Crohn's disease.

23. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 19, in which the inflammatory bowel disease is selected from the group consisting of enterocolitis, canine plasmacytic-lymphocytic colitis, prototheca1 colitis, and histocytic ulcerative colitis.

24. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 21, in which the inhibitor is administered in an enteric coated capsule or per-rectally.

25. Use of a compound as defined in any one of claims 1 to 15 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of inflammatory bowel disease.